

Barber Shop

Every barbershop must have the supervision of a licensed master barber during hours of operation and have a barbershop license. The MA Board of Registration of Barbers is the granting authority of barber's licenses and oversees all barbers, barbershops and barber schools in the state. In order to be eligible to apply for a barber license you need to apply and show the board that you have studied and practiced the occupation of barbering for two years as an apprentice under one or more registered barbers, or at least six months of attending a barber school under the supervision of a registered barber. You must show the board that you possess the requisite skills in this occupation, including but not limited to the preparation of tools, shaving, and haircutting as well as knowledge about diseases of the skin and face to avoid spreading of diseases.

A **Master Barber** application and instructions must be obtained by contacting the Board office by phone (617) 727-7367 or [e-mail: zane.b.skerry@state.ma.us](mailto:zane.b.skerry@state.ma.us). **Apprentice** applications are available from local barber schools. **Alien Apprentice Barbers** (barbers from another country) must contact the Board, by phone (617) 727-7367 or [e-mail: zane.b.skerry@state.ma.us](mailto:zane.b.skerry@state.ma.us), to receive an application and instructions.

To apply for a license for your barbershop from the Board of Registration of Barbers, in addition to the application, you'll need to provide the following:

- Floor plan- must include the entire layout of the shop. It does not need to be professionally done, but will need to indicate the location of all the rooms, stations, bathrooms, and front/back door.
- Owner's Name and phone number
- Name and address of the Shop
- If this is a current licensed shop being purchased/ leased, a copy of that shop's license or the name and license number of the previous shop owner.
- Anticipated opening date
- Copy of the City's Business Certificate (D/B/A License) – see **Chapter 5** “Registering your Business”
- Copy of the City's Occupancy Permit – see **Chapter 4** “Permitting & Licensing”
- Money order for \$130.00 (personal checks are not accepted) made payable to “Commonwealth of Massachusetts”

After the application and all requested information has been received and approved by the board, a shop-opening investigator will contact you to set-up a site inspection. Site investigators will be looking for the following at your establishment:

- There is running cold & hot water
- There is at least 1 bathroom with a sink
- In addition to the sink in the bathroom, there is an additional sink for hand washing
- Proper lighting and ventilation
- No sleeping quarters in the shop

After successful inspection, the Board then issues the license. The License must be posted on the premises and visible to the public (copies are acceptable). Below is a summary table listing the type of licenses, fees and

renewal dates and frequency:

Board Code	Type Class	License Type	Renewal Fee	Renewal Time	Renewal Frequency
BR	1	Barber Instructor	\$84.00	31-Dec	Annual (1 year)
BR	A	Apprentice Barber	\$40.00	31-Dec/ ODD YEAR	Biennial (2 years)
BR	M	Master Barber	\$78.00	31-Dec/ ODD YEAR	Biennial (2 years)
BS	1	Barber School	\$225.00	31-Dec	Annual (1 year)
BS	S	Barber Shop	\$78.00	30-Jun/ EVEN YEAR	Biennial (2 years)

For dual shops, Beauty Salon/Barber you must follow the guidelines required by both boards (Board of Barbers and Board of Cosmetology) and the salon must obtain 2 licenses, one for a cosmetology shop and one for the barbershop. If a beauty salon is putting a barbershop in a separate space in its shop they cannot display a barber pole in the window. A barber pole or barber pole decal can only be in display in the section that is licensed as the barbershop.

You should have a copy of the state rules and regulations available at all times. You can obtain a copy by calling (617) 727-2834 or you can download a copy here: www.mass.gov/reg

For more information:

MA Board of Barbers

MA Division of Professional Licensure

239 Causeway Street, Suite 500

Boston, MA 02114

(617) 727-7367 (P)

(617) 727-1627 (F)

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<http://www.mass.gov/ocabr/licensee/dpl-boards/br/>